



Water Conservation Starts with You

Water Conservation Tips



The winter of 2006 was one of the driest on record. And with global climate change upon us, scientists tell us that we can expect these drier winters to become more common. Today, more than ever, it's important to conserve our drinking water. Conserving water now may help avoid more serious rationing later.

“Our renewed personal commitment to conserving water is an essential part of creating a sustainable environment. These simple water saving tips are something that we can all do to conserve this precious resource.”

-Michael Sweeney, Mayor, City of Hayward

To help ensure that we have a clean, reliable water supply for the future, we all share a responsibility to use our water more efficiently today.

This brochure highlights simple and effective steps that Hayward residents can take to conserve water now and for the future.

For more water conservation information visit www.H2ouse.org.

There are a lot of ways you can be Water Wise.

In the Bathroom



Shower smart:

A standard low-flow showerhead uses 2.5 gallons each minute. That means a 10+ minute shower uses in excess of 25 gallons! To conserve water, keep your shower under 8 minutes or consider turning it off while soaping up or shampooing. Use a shower timer as a daily reminder.

Don't use your toilet as a "trash bin":

Even if your home has upgraded to low-flow toilets, you could be wasting nearly two gallons each time you flush your trash. Toilets account for nearly one-third of indoor water use and should only be used for what they were designed to do!

While brushing your teeth or shaving, turn off the tap:

You will save at least 2.5 gallons every minute.

In the Kitchen



Your sink doesn't need watering:

Running tap water while washing dishes can waste 2.5 gallons every minute. Fill the kitchen sink and dip dishes in water to wash or rinse.

Install a low-flow faucet aerator:

These devices are the most effective and inexpensive way to reduce your faucet use.

Don't run the tap to cool water for drinking:

Keep a container of water in the refrigerator.

Only run the dishwasher when it's completely full:

Each load uses about 15 gallons of water and reducing the number of dishwasher loads can lower both your water and energy costs by cutting down on costly drying cycles.

Around Your Property



Wait for a full load before washing laundry:

A single clothes washer cycle can use up to 60 gallons. Running fewer loads will save you water and energy.

Watering the sidewalk won't make it grow:

Use a broom instead of the water hose to clean your driveway and sidewalk.

Don't allow the hose to run as you wash your car:

Use a self-closing hose nozzle, or turn off the water between rinses.

Water only what your plants need:

Be sure sprinklers are adjusted to water plants and lawns, not the pavement or buildings. Plant water-wise gardens. Water lawns and gardens only at night and consider switching to a drip-irrigation system.

Become Water Wise

Learn about appliances in your home

The efficiency of the water fixtures and appliances in your home has the greatest impact on reducing household water use. By replacing older appliances and installing low-flow toilets and showerheads, you can cut your water consumption dramatically.

Toilets:

Depending on when your toilet was manufactured, it can have a flush volume from 1.6 up to 7 gallons. Inquire about the flush volume of your toilet to ensure you have a low-flow model.



Low-Flow devices:

Is your home equipped with low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators? Aerators on both kitchen and bathroom faucets are today's standard in new home construction, and can save 8,600 gallons of water per year.



Clothes Washing:

High-efficiency clothes washers can reduce water and energy use by 40%. The City of Hayward provides **CASH REBATES OF UP TO \$75** towards the purchase of efficient washing machines with additional funding available from PG&E for energy savings



“Upgrading fixtures, such as showerheads and faucet aerators,
is an inexpensive way to save money and water
and help the environment, now and in the future.”

-Michael Sweeney, Mayor, City of Hayward

For more information
call us at 510-583-4700 or
visit us at www.hayward-ca.gov

Para más información,
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visite www.hayward-ca.gov

IMPORTANT WATER CONSERVATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION INSIDE



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Be aware. Report and fix leaks.

Did you know plumbing leaks account for 14% of indoor water use in the United States? If you suspect a leak or faulty water fixture in your home, please fix it. If you are a renter, notify your landlord or property manager.

Leaking Faucets:

A faucet leaking a small stream wastes 2,000 to 2,700 gallons of water per month.

Watch and listen for toilet leaks:

A "running" toilet can waste two gallons of water per minute, up to 7,000 gallons per month. The water disinfectant, chloramine, causes older rubber products, such as toilet flapper valves to deteriorate and leak. Replacing the flapper valve is a simple, inexpensive solution.

Wasteful irrigation systems:

Many landscapes are over-watered or have leaking sprinkler heads and pipes.

